



## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

### Listing of Claims:

1. (**Currently Amended**) A method for processing two or more  
2 | email messages for transmission to one or more recipients,  
comprising the steps of:

4 |     identifying from at least one database a set of ~~one or more~~  
attributes ~~of for the~~ email messages;

6 |     establishing a transmission criteria for selecting the  
| email messages for transmission based on the ~~said set of~~  
8 | attributes ~~of for the~~ email messages;

10 |     determining ~~the set of attributes~~ at least one attribute for  
to assign to each of the email messages selected from said set  
of attributes;

12 |     organizing the email messages according to the ~~set of~~  
attributes ~~for said~~ at least one attribute assigned to each of  
14 | the email messages;

16 |     storing the ~~said~~ organized email messages on a shared  
storage device so that each of the email messages is stored in a  
18 | file that contains only email messages with a same said at least  
one attribute, wherein each said file has a file name that  
20 | indicates a one or more of said at least one attribute for the  
email messages in said file name; and

22 |     selecting the ~~said~~ organized email messages by said file  
names from the a single queue in said shared storage device for  
transmission according to the ~~said~~ transmission criteria.

2. (**Currently Amended**) A method according the claim 1, in which  
2 | ~~the said set of one or more attributes comprises is selected~~  
~~from the group consisting at least a one of:~~

4 | ~~the~~ a destination address of the ~~message~~ email messages, ~~the~~ a  
priority of the ~~message~~ email messages, ~~the~~ an estimated speed  
6 | of ~~the~~ a receiving message transfer agent, ~~the~~ a status of the  
said receiving message transfer agent, ~~the~~ a format of the  
8 | ~~message~~ email messages, ~~the~~ a time ~~set of~~ said at least one  
attribute ~~attributes~~ — is determined for the ~~message~~ email  
10 | messages, and ~~the~~ a time at which the ~~message~~ email messages  
must be transmitted to ~~its~~ their recipients.

3. (Currently Amended) A method according the claim 1, in which  
2 | ~~the~~ said set of ~~one or more~~ attributes comprises ~~is~~ selected  
~~from the group consisting at least a one of~~:-  
4 | ~~the~~ a priority of the ~~message~~ email messages, ~~the~~ an estimated  
speed of ~~the~~ a receiving message transfer agent, ~~the~~ a status of  
6 | ~~the~~ said receiving message transfer agent, ~~the~~ a format of the  
message email messages, ~~the~~ a time ~~set of~~ attributes said at  
8 | least one attribute is determined for the ~~message~~ email  
messages, and ~~the~~ a time at which the ~~message~~ email messages  
10 | must be transmitted to ~~its~~ their recipients.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 41, in which  
2 | each said file contains no more than a predetermined number of  
the email messages.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A system for processing two or more  
2 | email messages for transmission to one or more recipients,  
~~comprised of~~ comprising:  
4 | a processor that determines ~~one or more~~ from at least one  
database a set of attributes for ~~each of~~ the email messages and

organizes the email messages according to ~~the attributes of~~ at least one attribute assigned to each of the message email messages;

a shared storage device that stores ~~the said~~ organized email messages until ~~the said~~ organized email messages are selected for transmission, wherein each of the email messages is stored in a file that contains only email messages with a same said at least one attribute, and each said file has a file name that indicates a one or more of said at least one attribute for the email messages in said file name; and

a selector that selects ~~the said~~ organized email messages from ~~the a~~ single queue in said shared storage device by said file names for transmission according to a transmission criteria based on ~~the attributes of~~ said set of attributes for the email messages.

8. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 7, in which ~~the said~~ set of one or more attributes comprises ~~is selected from the group consisting at least a one of-~~:

~~the a~~ destination address of the message email messages, ~~the a~~ priority of the message email messages, ~~the an~~ estimated speed of ~~the a~~ receiving message transfer agent, ~~the a~~ status of the said receiving message transfer agent, ~~the a~~ format of the message email messages, ~~the a~~ time ~~the set of attributes said at least one attribute~~ is determined for the message email messages, and ~~the a~~ time at which the message email messages must be transmitted to ~~its~~ their recipients.

9. (Currently Amended) A system according the claim 7, in which ~~the said~~ set of one or more attributes comprises ~~is selected from the group consisting at least a one of-~~:

~~the a~~ priority of the message email messages, ~~the an~~ estimated speed of ~~the a~~ receiving message transfer agent, ~~the a~~ status of

6 | ~~the said~~ receiving message transfer agent, ~~the a~~ format of the  
message email messages, ~~the a~~ time set of ~~attributessaid~~ at  
8 | least one attribute is determined for the message email  
messages, and ~~the a~~ time at which the message email messages  
10 | must be transmitted to ~~its~~ their recipients.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 107, in  
2 | which each said file contains no more than a predetermined  
number of the email messages.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) A method for organizing two or more  
2 | email messages for transmission to one or more recipients,  
comprising:

4 | identifying from at least one database a set of one or more  
attributes of for the email messages;

6 | determining the attributes at least one attribute for to  
assign to each of the email messages selected from said set of  
8 | attributes;

10 | organizing the email messages according to the attributes  
of said at least one attribute assigned to each of the message  
email messages; and

12 | storing the said organized email messages on a shared  
storage device so that each of the email messages is stored in a  
14 | file that contains only email messages with a same said at least  
one attribute, wherein each said file has a file name that  
16 | indicates a one or more of said at least one attribute for the  
email messages in said file name.

14. (Currently Amended) A method according the claim 13, in  
2 | which ~~the~~ said set of ~~one or more~~ attributes comprises ~~is~~  
~~selected from the group consisting~~ at least a one of-:  
4 | ~~the~~ a destination address of the ~~message~~ email messages, ~~the~~ a  
priority of the ~~message~~ email messages, ~~the~~ an estimated speed  
6 | of ~~the~~ a receiving message transfer agent, ~~the~~ a status of the  
said receiving message transfer agent, ~~the~~ a format of the  
8 | ~~message~~ email messages, ~~the~~ a time ~~the set of attributes~~ said at  
least one attribute is determined for the ~~message~~ email  
10 | messages, and ~~the~~ a time at which the ~~message~~ email messages  
must be transmitted to ~~its~~ their recipients.

15. (Currently Amended) A method according the claim 13, in  
2 | which ~~the~~ said set of ~~one or more~~ attributes comprises ~~is~~  
~~selected from the group consisting~~ at least a one of-:  
4 | ~~the~~ a priority of the ~~message~~ email messages, ~~the~~ an estimated  
speed of ~~the~~ a receiving message transfer agent, ~~the~~ a status of  
6 | ~~the~~ said receiving message transfer agent, ~~the~~ a format of the  
message email messages, ~~the~~ a time ~~set of attributes~~ said at  
8 | least one attribute is determined for the ~~message~~ email  
messages, and ~~the~~ a time at which the ~~message~~ email messages  
10 | must be transmitted to ~~its~~ their recipients.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim ~~16~~ 13, in  
2 | which each said file contains no more than a predetermined  
number of the email messages.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) A method for determining the sequence  
of two or more email messages for transmission to one or more  
recipients, comprising the steps of:

establishing a transmission criteria for selecting the  
email messages ~~from~~ organized on a shared storage device for  
transmission based on a set of ~~one or more~~ attributes of ~~for~~ the  
email messages derived from at least one database, said  
organized email messages organized according to at least one  
attribute selected from said set of attributes and assigned to  
each of the email messages so that each of the email messages is  
stored in a file that contains only email messages with a same  
said at least one attribute, wherein each said file has a file  
name that indicates a one or more of said at least one attribute  
for the email messages in said file name; and

selecting ~~the~~ said organized email messages by said file  
names from the ~~a single queue in said shared storage device~~ for  
transmission according to ~~the~~ said transmission criteria.

20. (Currently Amended) A method according the claim 19, in  
which ~~the~~ said set of one or more attributes comprises ~~is~~  
~~selected from the group consisting~~ at least a one of:-

~~the~~ a destination address of the message email messages, the ~~a~~  
priority of the message email messages, the ~~an~~ estimated speed  
~~of the~~ a receiving message transfer agent, the ~~a~~ status of the  
said receiving message transfer agent, the ~~a~~ format of the  
message email messages, the ~~a~~ time the set of attributes said at  
least one attribute is determined for the message email  
messages, and the ~~a~~ time at which the message email messages  
must be transmitted to ~~its~~ their recipients.

21. (Currently Amended) A method according the claim 19, in  
which ~~the~~ said set of one or more attributes comprises ~~is~~  
~~selected from the group consisting~~ at least a one of:-

4 | ~~the a priority of the message\_email messages, the an estimated~~  
| ~~speed of the a receiving message transfer agent, the a status of~~  
6 | ~~the said receiving message transfer agent, the a format of the~~  
| ~~message\_email messages, the a time set of attributessaid at~~  
8 | least one attribute is determined for the message\_email  
| messages, and the a time at which the message\_email messages  
10 | must be transmitted to ~~its~~ their recipients.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 22<sup>19</sup>, in  
2 | which each said file contains no more than a predetermined  
| number of the email messages.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) A system for organizing two or more  
2 | email messages for transmission to one or more recipients,  
| comprising:

4 | a processor that determines ~~one or more~~ from at least one  
| database a set of attributes for each of the email messages and  
6 | organizes the email messages according to ~~the attributes of at~~  
| least one attribute assigned to each of the message\_email  
8 | messages; and

10 | a shared storage device that stores ~~the said~~ organized  
| email messages until ~~the said~~ organized email messages are  
12 | selected for transmission, wherein each of the email messages is  
| stored in a file that contains only email messages with a same  
14 | said at least one attribute, and each said file has a file name  
| that indicates a one or more of said at least one attribute for  
| the email messages in said file name.

26. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 25, in  
2 which ~~the~~ said set of ~~one or more~~ attributes comprises ~~is~~  
~~selected from the group consisting at least a one of~~:-  
4 ~~the~~ a destination address of the message email messages, ~~the~~ a  
priority of the message email messages, ~~the~~ an estimated speed  
6 of ~~the~~ a receiving message transfer agent, ~~the~~ a status of the  
said receiving message transfer agent, ~~the~~ a format of the  
8 message email messages, ~~the~~ a time ~~the set of attributes said at~~  
least one attribute is determined for the message email  
10 messages, and ~~the~~ a time at which the message email messages  
must be transmitted to ~~its~~ their recipients.

27. (Currently Amended) A system according the claim 25, in  
2 which ~~the~~ said set of ~~one or more~~ attributes comprises ~~is~~  
~~selected from the group consisting at least a one of~~:-  
4 ~~the~~ a priority of the message email messages, ~~the~~ an estimated  
speed of ~~the~~ a receiving message transfer agent, ~~the~~ a status of  
6 ~~the~~ said receiving message transfer agent, ~~the~~ a format of the  
message email messages, ~~the~~ a time ~~set of attributes said at~~  
8 least one attribute is determined for the message email  
messages, and ~~the~~ a time at which the message email messages  
10 must be transmitted to ~~its~~ their recipients.

28. (Canceled)

29. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim ~~28~~25, in  
2 which each said file contains no more than a predetermined  
number of the email messages.

30. (Canceled)



31. (Currently Amended) A system for determining the sequence  
of two or more email messages for transmission to one or more  
recipients, comprising:

a selector that selects the email messages from a shared  
storage device for transmission according to a transmission  
criteria based on a set of attributes for the email messages  
derived from at least one database, wherein at least one or more  
attribute selected from set of attributes is assigned to each of  
the email messages, wherein each of the email messages is stored  
in a file that contains only email messages with a same said at  
least one attribute, and each said file has a file name that  
indicates a one or more of said at least one attribute for the  
email messages in said file name.

32. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 31, in  
which ~~the set of one or more attributes~~ said set of attributes  
~~comprises is selected from the group consisting at least a one~~  
of-:

~~the a destination address of the message email messages, the a~~  
priority of the ~~message email messages, the an~~ estimated speed  
of ~~the a~~ receiving message transfer agent, ~~the a~~ status of the  
~~said receiving message transfer agent, the a~~ format of the  
~~message email messages, the a time the set of attributes said at~~  
least one attribute is determined for the message email  
messages, and the a time at which the message email messages  
must be transmitted to ~~its~~ their recipients.

33. (Currently Amended) A system according the claim 31, in  
which ~~the said set of one or more attributes comprises is~~  
~~selected from the group consisting at least a one~~ of-:

~~the a~~ priority of the ~~message email messages, the an~~ estimated  
speed of ~~the a~~ receiving message transfer agent, ~~the a~~ status of  
~~the said~~ receiving message transfer agent, ~~the a~~ format of the

8 | message\_email messages, ~~the a time set of attributes~~ said at  
10 | least one attribute is determined for the message\_email  
| messages, and ~~the a time~~ at which the message\_email messages  
| must be transmitted to ~~its~~ their recipients.

34. (Canceled)

2 | 35. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 3431, in  
| which each said file contains no more than a predetermined  
| number of the email messages.

36. (Canceled)